

REPORTING MOSQUITO CONCERNS

If you experience mosquito problems or find environments conducive to breeding mosquitoes, please contact Community Code Enforcement for an inspection of your property or to report the suspected problem site.

It is not necessary to leave your contact information, but that is helpful so you can be advised of the outcome.

When you call us, please be prepared to tell us the specific location and the time of day when the problem is more noticeable.

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*For more information,
or to report mosquito problems,
please contact:*

The City of Rocky Mount

Public Works Department
Community Code Enforcement
PO Box 1180
Rocky Mount, NC 27802-1180

252-467-4952
252-467-4965 fax

Robert.Collins@rockymountnc.gov
www.rockymountnc.gov/publicworks

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FIGHT THE BITE!

Some facts about mosquitoes:

- During summer, adult mosquitoes can emerge in about five to seven days after rain.
- Only the females need blood for egg development. Males do not bite.
- Females of some species can lay between 150–400 eggs.
- Most mosquitoes can live from two to four weeks depending on factors such as temperature, humidity, sex of the mosquito, time of year, and predators.
- Nighttime fogging is not an effective control method for the Asian tiger mosquito, as they are less active after dusk when fogging is conducted.
- Reducing container habitat or standing water in containers is the most effective control method for the Asian tiger mosquito.

MOSQUITO ABATEMENT



The City of Rocky Mount operates an aggressive mosquito control program that emphasizes prevention.

This brochure outlines what you can do to minimize the nuisance of mosquitoes near your home or neighborhood, and helps you become familiar with what the City is doing in the community at large.



MOSQUITO ABATEMENT

Community Code provides treatment (as possible) of some mosquito habitat to control larvae thereby preventing or reducing the number of adult mosquitoes emerging. City staff treats sites such as ditches, ground pools, small woodland pools, storm drains, catch basins, and retention ponds. They also inspect occupied and vacant property for conditions that may allow mosquitoes to breed, and then they take appropriate action to abate the problem or to inform the owner or resident to remove or resolve the issue.

If or when adult mosquito populations rise, the Community Code Division may implement the fogging program to reduce the number of adult mosquitoes in an area. That decision is based on several factors:

- inspection of citizen complaints and identification of species,
- number & species collected during landing counts,
- recent rain fall and amount of standing water,
- number of larvae and/or pupae in standing water, and the projected date for emergence.

NOTE: Fogging is not effective when winds are over 10 mph, during steady rain, or when nighttime temperatures drop below 52°F.

When weekly fogging is initiated, it is usually scheduled to run from Sunday through Thursday between the hours of 8:30 pm and 5:00 am. Some adjustment is made based on actual time of dusk and dawn (30 minutes prior to sunset and 30 minutes after sunrise). Fogging on Friday & Saturday nights is withheld unless needed due to rain delays, to reduce extremely high mosquito populations, or if there is an increased public health risk of vector-borne disease.

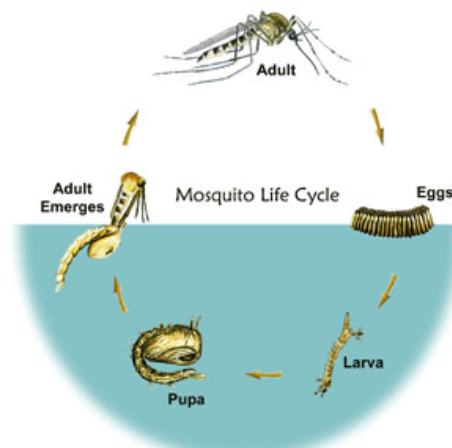
WEST NILE VIRUS: THE FACTS

Some people are concerned about the West Nile Virus. It is spread through the bite of an infected mosquito. (Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds.) Even in areas where mosquitoes do carry the virus, very few mosquitoes, much less than 1% are infected. If a mosquito is infected, less than 1% of the people who are bitten and become infected will get severely ill. Most people who become infected show no symptoms or have only mild symptoms of the disease.

HABITAT & LIFE CYCLE

Some mosquitoes (especially the Asian tiger mosquitoes) lay eggs in containers that are dry but will fill with water, or if water is present, just above the water line. These places include tires, buckets, birdbaths, tarps, plastic sheets, the ripples of plastic garbage bags, bottles, cans, clogged gutters, sagging gutters, unused children's pools and toys, wheelbarrows, boats (not set to drain properly), etc. Some eggs will hatch this year, but some will lie dormant two to three years before hatching.

Other mosquitoes lay eggs directly on water which hatch within two days with adults emerging in seven days. These can be found in containers as well as woodland pools, ditches and catch basins.



WHAT YOU CAN DO

There are simple steps that you can take to help prevent mosquitoes from becoming a nuisance on your property. Steps to take include:

- Keep containers (buckets, watering cans, etc.) stored away or empty them regularly to reduce the presence of standing water in your yard where some mosquitoes lay eggs;
- Flush or treat birdbaths weekly to prevent mosquitoes from emerging (mosquito dunks are an example of potential treatment method);
- Wear protective clothing when outdoors during times when mosquitoes are active;
- Install or repair window and door screens;
- Use mosquito repellent as needed (follow label directions);
- Reschedule your activity for a time when mosquitoes are not active.

For more information visit the Public Works Department page on the city website: www.rockymountnc.gov/publicworks

Information is also available on the Centers for Disease Control website: www.cdc.gov